



The Human Problem of Genocide

Genocide is a result of cascading radicalization of policy. It is rarely a premeditated design pursued from the outset. Policy incrementally evolves and adapts over time in the complex face of changing political, military, and social circumstances. Genocide emerges as a kind of Plan C after previous attempts to "solve" a perceived "threat" fails.

1948 UN Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide

Any of the following acts undertaken with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial, or religious group, as such.

- (a) Killing members of the group;
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

- ✓ Studying Genocide Can Be Transformative
- ✓ Genocide is an Old Practice but a Modern Concept
- ✓ The Worst Crime? No hierarchy of atrocity crimes
- ✓ Genocide Has Human, Cultural, and Development Costs
- ✓ Genocide is a Process
- ✓ Nearly 20 Countries Are Currently at Risk of Genocide
- ✓ You Can Make a Difference

1. Raphael Lemkin

On Talaat's assassination by Tehlirian: "It is a crime for Tehlirian to kill a man, but it is not a crime for his oppressor to kill more than a million men? This is most inconsistent."

2. Wrestling with and expanding the UN Definition of Genocide

- Enlarging the idea/scope of protected groups
- Intent and motive
- Implying intent
- Indicators of scale (Qualitative not quantitative)

3. Crimes of Mass Atrocity (Creating a broader contextual framework)

Genocide

War Crimes

Crimes against Humanity

4. Genocide as Process

Stanton Model

- Classification
- Symbolization
- Discrimination
- Dehumanization
- Organization
- Polarization
- Preparation
- Persecution
- Extermination
- Denial

Strengths and weaknesses of Stanton's model:

5. Waller's Risk Factors for Violent or Genocidal Violence

- Governance
- Conflict History
- Economic Conditions
- Social Fragmentation

6. Genocide Risk Factors

- Extent of Political Upheaval
- Exclusionary Ideology
- Prior Genocides
- International Context: Economic and Political Interdependence of a State
 - Low level of interdependence
 - Low economic development and societal cleavages
 - Narrow ethnic base of ruling elite
 - Denial of previous genocide triples the chance of reoccurrence

7. Three tenets of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) (Sovereignty as responsibility vs. sovereignty as control)

- Responsibility to _____
- Responsibility to _____
- Responsibility to _____

8. Making a Difference